

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14

USIA-12 AF-10 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 OMB-01 ACDA-19

GAC-01 T-03 EB-11 TRSE-00 SPM-01 AID-20 OIC-04 RSR-01

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R 241842 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5099

INFO USUN NEW YORK 530

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 MEXICO CITY 1917

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OCON, MX

SUBJ: AMBASSADOR SCALI VISIT

1. FOLLOWING MORNING BRIEFING AT EMBASSY YESTERDAY' S PROGRAM OF AMB SCALI INCLUDED NOON CALL ON FOREIGN SECRETARY RABASA, LUNCH WITH RABASA AND TOP FONOFF OFFICIALS AND 5:00 P. M. CALL ON PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA.

2. HOUR LONG CHAT WITH RABASA WHO ACCOMPANIED BY INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION DIRECTOR GENERAL MANUEL TELLO DEVOTED MAINLY TO PANAMA SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING AND TO MEXICO' S INTEREST IN EARLY UN DEBATE ON CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF NATIONS. RABASA SHOWED KEEN INTEREST IN DETAILS OF PANAMA MEETING AND BYPLAY OF NEGOTIATIONS AS RECOUNTED BY SCALI. MANUEL TELLO EXPRESSED HIS VIEW THAT US SHOULD HAVE ABSTAINED ON CANAL RESOLUTION TO AVOID STIGMA OF VETO (US IMAGE SUFFERED DAMAGE," SAID TELLO) BUT RABASA QUICKLY OVERRODE THIS VIEW AND EXPRESSED UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORT FOR SCALI' S REASONS WHY US COULD NOT ACCEPT SC ROLE IN STRICTLY BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS. RABASA EXPLAINED THAT
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WHILE HE WAS PERSONAL FRIEND OF PANAMANIAN FONMIN TACK AND THAT GOM SUPPORTED PANAMA'S JUST ASPIRATIONS IN CANAL, HIS GOVERNMENT OPPOSED MULTINATIONAL INTERVENTION IN BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS. HE AGREED WITH SCALI'S DESIRE TO AVOID INOPERATIVE SC OR UN PRONOUNCEMENTS OR RESOLUTIONS ON BILATERAL MATTERS (E. G., MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM, GIBRALTAR, MALVINAS ISLANDS) WHICH HAD NO EFFECT ON THE RESOLUTION OF THESE PROBLEMS AND THUS TENDED TO DIMINISH PRESTIGE OF UN.

2. RABASA WAS ALSO VERY SYMPATHETIC TO SCALI'S EFFORTS IN PANAMA IN FAVOR OF RESTRAINT AND IN SEARCH OF COMPROMISE SOLUTION WITH GOP WHICH WOULD PROTECT LEGITIMATE INTERESTS OF BOTH PARTIES WITHOUT EXACERBATING EMOTIONS OR HARDENING POSITIONS IN DETRIMENT TO PRACTICAL SOLUTION. RABASA SAID HE HAD HIMSELF TOLD TACK THIS BEFORE SC MEETING RECOMMENDING THAT LATTER TAKE GREAT CARE NOT TO SACRIFICE CHANCE FOR REAL PROGRESS IN CANAL ISSUE ON ALTAR OF POPULAR APPLAUSE. RABASA WAS DELIGHTED TO LEARN FROM SCALI THAT DESPITE OUTCOME SC MEETING US DISPOSED TO CONTINUE NEGOTIATIONS WITH PANAMA IN GOOD FAITH AND WITH REAL DESIRE TO ACCOMMODATE LEGITIMATE GOP ASPIRATIONS. RABASA EXPRESSED GOM'S DISAPPOINTMENT THAT CANAL ISSUE HAD ECLIPSED OTHER ISSUES BEFORE THE SC SUCH AS THE TREATY OF TLALTELOLCO.

4. RABASA THEN TURNED FOCUS OF DISCUSSION TO CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF NATIONS PRESENTED BY MEXICAN DELEGATION AT LAST YEAR'S UNCTAD MEETING IN CHILE. AFTER BRIEF DISCUSSION OF HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY BEHIND EFFORT RABASA MADE GOM'S APPEAL TO SCALI FOR US SUPPORT FOR MEXICO'S EFFORT TO HAVE CHARTER CONSIDERED BY UN THIS YEAR AND NOT DELAYED BY PROCEDURAL QUESTION THEY EXPECT TO BE RAISED IN JULY (BY THE UK) AS TO WHETHER THE CHARTER SHOULD BE EXAMINED IN FORM OF POTENTIAL TREATY, CONVENTION OR RESOLUTION. RABASA SAID HE UNDERSTOOD USG HAD SOME RESERVATIONS ABOUT CHARTER BUT FELT THESE COULD AND SHOULD BE AIRED IN FULL DISCUSSION OF CHARTER WHICH WOULD DEPEND ON AVOIDANCE OF PROCEDURAL DELAY HE REFERRED TO. HE SAID MEXICO WANTED NO CREDIT FOR CHARTER EFFORT AND HELD NO BRIEF FOR WORDING SUGGESTED AT UNCTAD MEETING BUT ADDED THAT THE IDEA OF THE CHARTER WAS DEAR TO THE HEART OF PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA WHO WAS CONVINCED OF THE NEED FOR SUCH AN INTERNATIONAL EFFORT AND STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES IN SUPPORT OF THE DEVELOPING
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NATIONS OF THE WORLD.

5. AMB SCALI EXPRESSED KEEN APPRECIATION FOR PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA' S MOTIVES AND SAID THAT ALTHOUGH HE WAS NOT AWARE OF THE CURRENT STATUS OF CHARTER CONSIDERATION OR OUR POSITION IN ITS REGARD, HE WOULD GIVE THE MATTER HIS PERSONAL ATTENTION UPON HIS RETURN TO NEW YORK.

6. LUNCH IN AMB SCALI' S HONOR AT SAN ANGEL INN WAS ATTENDED BY SEC. RABASA, UNDERSEC. GONZALEZ SOSA, FONOFF DIRECTORS CASTRO Y CASTRO, ROSENZWEIG- DIAZ, MANUEL TELLO AND GONZALEZ GALVEZ IN ADDITION TO AMB SCALI AND PARTY, CHARGE DEAN (HOST), POLCONS MATTHEWS AND PAO RYLANCE. THE OCCASION PROVIDED AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY FOR AMBASSADORS SCALI AND BENNETT TO CONTINUE THE DISCUSSIONS WITH SEC. RABASA AND TO GET TO KNOW AND EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH OTHER TOP GOM FONOFF OFFICIALS RESPONSIBLE FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS.

7. THE 5 O' CLOCK COURTESY CALL ON PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA DEVELOPED INTO AN HOUR- LONG DIALOGUE ON WORLD PROBLEMS, THE PRESIDENT' S FORTHCOMING TRIP, THE SC MEETING AND AREAS OF US- MEXICAN COOPERATION. IN DISCUSSING PROBLEMS OF THE HEMISPHERE AND OF DEVELOPING " THIRD WORLD" COUNTRIES GENERALLY ECHEVERRIA STRESSED THE NEED FOR HELP FROM THE DC' S ALONG " ALLIANCE FOR PROGRESS" LINES AND INDICATED THAT THE CHARTER FOR ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF NATIONS WAS DESIGNED TO BE A STEP IN THIS DIRECTION. HE REFERRED TO THE POPULATION EXPLOSION AS A MAJOR WORLD PROBLEM.

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AMEMBASSY PANAMA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 MEXICO CITY 1917

8. AMB SCALI EXPRESSED ADMIRATION FOR PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA' S DEEP UNDERSTANDING OF WORLD PROBLEMS AND FOR HIS SEARCH FOR SOLUTIONS. HE SHARED THE PRESIDENT' S CONCERN OVER THE POPULATION PROBLEM, AND COMMENDED THE WORK BEING DONE BY CARRILLO FLORES AS SYG OF WORLD POPULATION CONFERENCE, AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE PRESIDENT MIGHT HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO REFER TO THIS PROBLEM DURING HIS VISIT TO CHINA, THE WORLD' S MOST POPULOUS NATION.

9. PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA THEN MENTIONED TO AMB SCALI HIS IDEA FOR A GUAYABERA (SHIRT SLEEVE) LATIN AMERICAN SUMMIT BREAKFAST CONFERENCE TO BE HELD VERY INFORMALLY AT A QUIET OUT OF THE WAY PLACE SUCH AS COZUMEL. HE EXPRESSED HIS CONVICTION THAT SUCH A MEETING WHICH WOULD HAVE NO AGENDA AND BE MAINLY SOCIAL OCCASION WOULD BE OF POSITIVE BENEFIT TO THE UNITED STATES AND TO THE HEMISPHERE AND ASKED AMB SCALI TO TAKE THE MATTER UP WITH PRESIDENT NIXON. HE ADDED THAT IF MR. NIXON WERE TO AGREE TO SUCH A MEETING, HE, PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA, COULD ASSURE HIM OF THE ATTENDANCE OF ALMOST ALL LATIN AMERICAN CHIEFS OF STATE. HE SAID HE DID NOT THINK CASTRO' S PRESENCE WOULD BE DESIRABLE BUT ADDED THAT
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PERHAPS HE COULD GET DORTICOS TO REPRESENT CUBA AT SUCH A MEETING. AMB SCALI SAID HE WOULD DISCUSS THE IDEA WITH PRESIDENT NIXON.

10. THE CALL ON THE PRESIDENT WAS FOLLOWED BY AN INFORMAL QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD WITH THE PRESS AT LOS PINOS. THE QUESTIONS DEALT PRIMARILY WITH THE PANAMA MEETING, THE CANAL PROBLEM AND THE FUTURE OF THE OAS. ON THE LATTER QUESTION, SCALI MADE CLEAR US SUPPORT FOR THE OAS SAYING THE FOLLOWING:

" CERTAIN COUNTRIES FOR REASONS THEY BELIEVE TO BE VALID THINK THE OAS IS OBSOLETE. MY GOVERNMENT DOES NOT SHARE THAT VIEW. IF CHANGES WO MAKE IT MORE EFFECTIVE MUST COME ABOUT, THIS HAS TO BE DECIDED BY THE MEMBERS THEMSELVES. OAS WILL EXIST FOR LONGER THAN THOSE WHO ARE PREMATURELY BURYING IT."

1. COMMENT: ALL IN ALL IT WAS AN ACTIVE DAY DURING WHICH AMBASSADORS SCALI AND BENNETT WERE ABLE TO BUILD UP A RAPPORT WITH PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA, FONSEC RABASA AND TOP FONOFF OFFICIALS

WHICH CAN BE EXPECTED TO PRODUCE FUTURE BENEFITS. SEC.
RABASA CALLED CHARGE AT HOME LAST EVENING TO EXPRESS THIS
THOUGHT SAYING THAT IT WAS CLEAR TO HIM BY THE LENGTH AND DEPTH
OF THE CONVERSATIONS (WHICH DEVELOPED FROM WHAT WAS TO HAVE
BEEN A BRIEF COURTESY CALL) THAT PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA WAS
IMPRESSED WITH AMB SCALI AND DELIGHTED WITH THEIR CONVERSATION.
DEAN

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